

R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
O F C H O R L E Y

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1970

P U B L I C H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

S T A F F

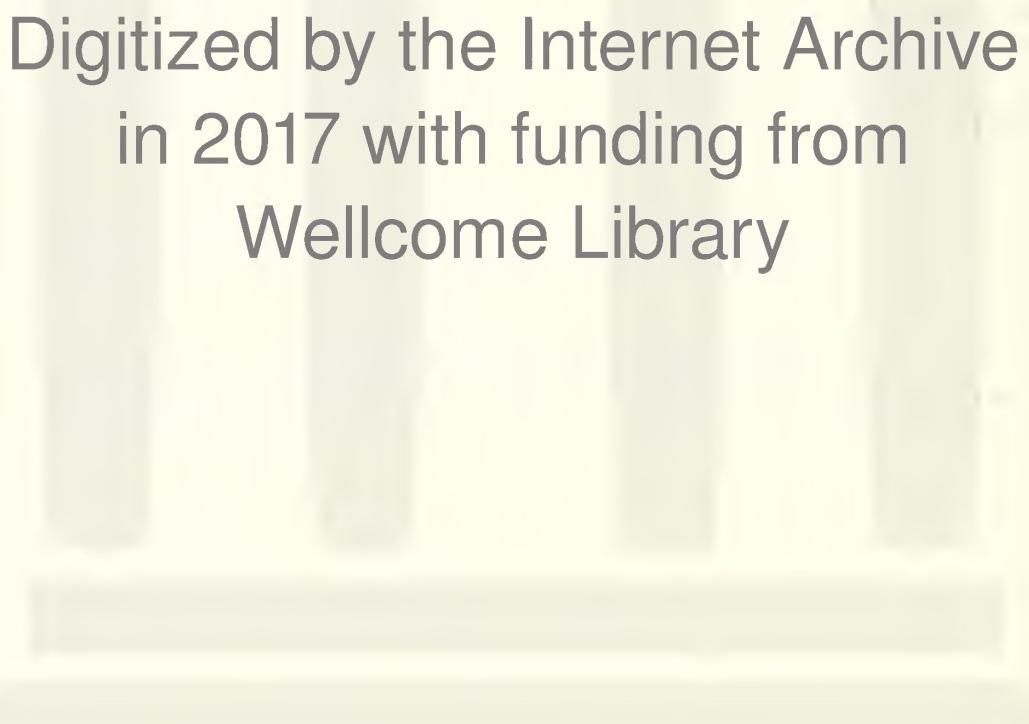
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.
DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (to 30.6.70)	N.T.W. Pover, L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.
DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (from 1.10.70)	L. M. Mayer-Jones, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	R. H. Grayson, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	R. Hilton, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	G. H. Watchorn, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR (to April, 1970)	J. H. Pendlebury, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR (from June, 1970)	B. W. Hailwood, Diploma P.H.I. Education Board

Lady Clerk Mrs. L. Wright to October, 1970

Lady Clerk Miss C. Chadwick from October, 1970

Rodent Operators are also employed

Outside staff is engaged on Refuse Collection and Disposal



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Gillibrand Street,
CHORLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1970

To The Chairman and Members of the Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my report for the year 1970.

AREA

The District encircles the Municipal Borough of Chorley, and is bounded on the North by Walton-le-Dale U.D., Leyland U.D., and Preston R.D., on the South by Wigan R.D., Standish U.D., Adlington U.D., and Horwich U.D., and on the West by West Lancashire R.D., on the East by Blackburn R.D., Withnell U.D., and Turton U.D.

The District which comprises of twenty parishes is varied in character, and whilst there is considerable industry most parts of the District are rural.

There was no change in the District during the year, the area is 41,114 acres.

Nothing specific happened in connection with the New City in Central Lancashire during the year. When development does start it will bring changes since it affects the whole or part of seven parishes in the District.

At the present time agriculture predominates in the area which has some rich agricultural land. In addition there is, of course, spinning and weaving of cotton and other fabrics, the Royal Ordnance Factory in the District is an industry on its own. Brick making is carried on at Croston and the old craft of basket making is still carried on in Mawdesley. There are in addition vast industries in some adjoining areas which provide work for residents of the District. It has also been found that people are prepared to leave large conurbations and live in Eccleston, Clayton-le-Woods or Euxton and travel daily to their places of employment, some say it is cheaper than living nearer the large cities. Coal mining is no longer carried out in the District.

MOTORWAYS

The North South Motorway passes through the District from the boundary at Walton-le-Dale to the boundary with Wigan Rural District at Shevington. The parishes through which it runs are Cuerden, Clayton-le-Woods, Euxton, Charnock Richard and Coppull. There is a service area at Charnock Richard on the north side of the new bridge carrying Mill Lane over the motorway, the area is serviced from Mill Lane. The Councils' main sewer passes under the motorway near the service area and serves the area.

The M61 which runs through the parishes of Anderton, Heath Charnock, Whittle-le-Woods and Brindle was completed during the year, so that it is now possible to travel from the M6 along the M61 to its junction with the M62 at Eccles.

Construction of a Motorway Service Area at Anderton commenced during the year, the petroleum storage and service installation, whilst virtually complete, was not in use at the end of the year.

POPULATION

The estimated population (Register Generals' Figure) for mid 1970 is:- 36,880

The following figures give the population since 1960 and show the variation:-

<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
27,750	28,680	29,110	29,420	29,590	30,410	31,180	31,970	34,100	35,700	36,880

The Census figure for 1931 was 23,633

The Census figure for 1951 was 27,198

The Census figure for 1961 was 28,530

INHABITATED HOUSES

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1970 was:-

12,702

RATEABLE VALUE

The Rateable value of the District is:-

£1,194,896

The sum represented by a penny rate is:-

£11,760

STATISTICS

BIRTH RATE

	<u>Live Births</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	684	366	318
Illegitimate	21	10	11
TOTAL	705	376	329

Birth Rate (crude) per 1,000 estimated civilian population

19.1

Birth Rate (adjusted) per 1,000 estimated civilian population

19.9

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales

16.0

Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	11	5	6
Illegitimate	1	1	-
—	—	—	—
12	6	6	—
—	—	—	—

The Rate per 1,000 total births is

17

The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales

13

DEATH RATE

<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
407	224	183

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude) is

11.0

The adjusted rate per 1,000 estimated population is

12.7

The Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is

11.7

INFANTILE DEATHS

The Death Rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births is

17

The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is

18

Early neonatal (under one week) Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births

13

Perinatal (still births and deaths under one week combined) Mortality
Rate per 1,000 total births

29

Perinatal (England and Wales)

23

There were actually 12 infant deaths.

MATERNAL DEATHS

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The maternal mortality Rate per 1,000 total births

Nil

The following tables give the figures for the past twenty years:-

YEAR	LIVE BIRTH RATE		STILL BIRTH RATE Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live & still births)	DEATH RATE		INFANTILE DEATH RATE Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live births)	MATERNAL RATE Chorley R.D.
	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales		Chorley R.D.	England and Wales		
1951	14.0	15.5	28.0	14.0	12.5	32	-
1952	14.2	15.3	23.0	12.2	11.3	26	2
1953	14.6	15.5	27.0	11.3	11.4	35	-
1954	13.3	15.2	29.0	12.2	11.3	22	-
1955	13.0	15.0	25.0	11.9	11.7	42	-
1956	13.5	15.7	27.0	12.0	11.7	14	-
1957	14.2	16.1	18.0	12.3	11.5	26	-
1958	14.7	16.4	31.3	11.8	11.7	42	-
1959	15.9	16.5	32.9	12.7	11.6	29	-
1960	16.5	17.1	35.8	12.2	11.5	32	1
1961	17.0	17.4	25.9	14.3	12.0	16	-
1962	18.3	18.0	29.1	13.5	11.9	7	-
1963	18.0	18.2	16.7	12.7	12.2	20	-
1964	18.5	18.4	16.2	12.3	11.3	27	-
1965	19.4	18.1	16.7	11.7	11.5	17	1
1966	17.7	17.7	17.8	12.2	11.7	27	-
1967	18.5	17.2	17.0	12.3	11.2	22	-
1968	19.4	16.9	18.0	11.1	11.9	21	-
1969	20.3	16.3	11.0	11.0	11.9	18	-
1970	19.1	16.0	17.0	11.0	11.7	17	-

DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)

YEARS										
1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
27	50	45	48	55	39	37	46	56	47	58
1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
57	56	50	47	51	67	65	65	55	68	67

ANALYSIS OF CAUSE OF DEATH

Cause	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	11	2
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, Intestine	5	9	14
Malignant neoplasm, Larynx	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus	9	3	12
Malignant neoplasm, Breast	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	1
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	8	18
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	2	1	3
Diabetes Mellitus	-	3	3
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1	1
Multiple sclerosis	-	3	3
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	1	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	3	3
Hypertensive Disease	3	5	8
Ischaemic Heart Disease	59	33	92
Other forms of Heart Disease	15	10	25
Cerebrovascular Disease	43	44	87
Other Disease of Circulatory System	10	12	22
Influenza	6	4	10
Pneumonia	10	7	17
Bronchitis and Emphysema	14	2	16
Asthma	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	6	7
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	2	2
Congenital Anomalies	2	1	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	3	-	3
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	-	5
All Other Accidents	4	2	6
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	2	4
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	224	183	407

The table on page 4 is a summary provided by the Registrar General. The total of 407 deaths is 14 more than the figure for the previous year. The International Classification of Diseases and Causes of Death has been revised and the table uses the new classification which makes accurate comparison with the previous years figures difficult in some instances. It is possible, however, to compare the main causes.

Deaths from malignant diseases decreased by one, those from Bronchitis and Emphysema by five; from diseases Genito-Urinary System by five, Congenital Anomalies by six, and Accidents other than Motor Vehicle Accidents by eight. On the other hand deaths from heart diseases increased by fifteen and from cerebrovascular disease by twenty seven.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was twelve which is one less than in 1969.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968: Part III

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968

Responsibility for notification of a case of notifiable disease now rests exclusively on the doctor attending the patient whether in hospital or elsewhere. All existing Regulations have been consolidated so as to attain uniformity in notification procedure.

Tetanus and Yellow Fever are now notifiable in this country as well as Leptospirosis which was previously notifiable only in certain areas. Acute and Primary Pneumonia, Acute Influenza Pneumonia, Puerperal Pyrexia and Acute Rheumatism and Erysipelas are no longer notifiable.

The Council has authorised the Medical Officer of Health to act in those cases where it is considered necessary.

Persons requiring hospital treatment on account of infectious diseases are now sent to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston.

The number of cases admitted to hospital is comparatively few.

Measles accounted for 262 of the 530 notifications received during the year. Vaccination against measles, which involves only one injection, is available from general medical practitioners, Child-Welfare Centres, and School Clinics for children one to fifteen. Parents are urged to take advantage of this protection for children who have not yet had measles.

During the year 1970 protection against yet another infectious disease became available, namely, rubella or german measles. This disease is now recognised as a serious danger to women during pregnancy because of its potentially harmful effects on the unborn child resulting in congenital abnormalities. Vaccination against german measles is available to all girls between the ages of eleven and fourteen years, and again this involves only one injection.

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 530.

This total for 1969 was 138.

The number of cases of scarlet fever was seven less than the previous year being 4.

There were no cases of dysentery notified during 1970. In 1969 there were 4 cases.

There were four cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified.

There were no cases of meningitis.

There were no cases of diphtheria.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of whooping cough.

Infectious Diseases contd.....

Infective Jaundice

This disease became generally notifiable in 1968, during that year two cases were notified.

In 1969 there were 5 cases notified.

In 1970 there were no less than 254 cases notified. These 254 cases were not spread evenly throughout the District but were confined mainly to the adjoining parishes of Coppull and Charnock Richard where 202 or approximately four fifths of the cases occurred.

Both these parishes are immediately outside the Borough of Chorley in which there are several schools attended by a considerable number of students from Coppull and Charnock Richard. There were cases of Infective Jaundice in the Borough of Chorley at the beginning of the year and it may be there is a connection between the two outbreaks.

Of the remaining 52 cases 29 were in the parish of Whittle-le-Woods which adjoins the Borough of Chorley on the northerly side as opposed to Coppull and Charnock Richard being on the west side of the town.

The combined population of Coppull and Charnock Richard is approximately 8,400 out of a total population of 36,880 for the whole District. The three parishes mentioned all have modern amenities including sewers. Reference to page 7 shows that no less than 47 of these cases, nearly 20% involved people over 15 years of age and 39 of these were actually over 20 years of age.

Visits were made to the homes of all the notified and it was noticed that the younger children seemed to recover quickly from the disease. Whilst no figures are available it is I think quite true to say the adults suffered for a much longer period and appeared to have been affected more seriously.

Food Poisoning

There were 6 cases of food poisoning in 1970, all were individual cases, not connected with each other in any way, infact the causative organisms were of four types.

The first case (Salmonella Agona) was contracted whilst on holiday in Spain.

The second case (Salmonella Agona) was a baby a year old thought to have contracted the disease in hospital.

The third case (Salmonella Panama) a young man of 18 also thought to have contracted the disease in hospital.

Case No. 4 (Salmonella Indiana) a man of 34 had been on and off work several times during the last twelve months, he was employed at a hatchery and whilst we have no proof think he may have contracted the disease at work.

Case No. 5 (Salmonella Indiana) a lady of 50 thought to have contracted the disease at a Wedding outside the Rural District.

The last case (Salmonella Newington) a lady of 67, the source was unknown.

Suspected Food Poisoning at Euxton (Lancashire County Fire Brigade Training Centre)

Three cases of suspected food poisoning were notified by phone on Thursday, 24th September, the doctor notifying these cases had been informed that a lot of other people had been affected the previous week end.

The premises were visited the same day and the assembled staff and students, approximately 120 persons, were informed of the position and asked to submit faeces specimens for examination.

52 specimens were collected and submitted to the laboratory on Friday, of these 51 cases were reported negative and one doubtful, this was later reported negative.

The examination of these specimens for a virus was also carried out and later reported negative. More people suffered the same symptoms on Friday evening and the Commandant cancelled the course to be held the following week.

The trouble flared up again on the 9th and 13th of October, and further specimens were submitted for examination, these again proved to be negative.

Cholera

Early in September we were informed that because of the rapid extension westwards of Cholera - eastern mediterranean and West Africa - it had been decided that certain classes of travellers would be required to possess valid certificates of vaccination on arrival in this country.

Port and Airport Medical Officers were required to notify Medical Officers of any cases placed under surveillance. No cases were reported to me.

In September there was a confirmed cholera case occurring in a man from Flintshire, who had recently returned from a holiday abroad. The Department of Health and Social Security notified all Authorities by telegram and letter of this case, giving all relevant information for whatever action was considered necessary. Fortunately there were no contacts from this area necessitating any investigation.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (After Correction)

NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1970

Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified									
		Age Periods - Years									
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Age unknown
Measles (excluding rubella)	262	15	37	30	46	41	84	6	2	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTD

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified												
		Age Periods - Years												
		0-	5-	15-	45-	65 and over	Age unknown	0-	5-	15-	45-	55-	65-	75-
Acute encephalitis Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	1	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	254	-	-	19	133	55	8	9	20	4	5	1	-	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases of fatal tuberculosis not notified before death	NONE													

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	YEAR									
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961
Scarlet Fever	4	11	11	21	26	28	5	6	7	31
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	262	112	243	196	232	483	140	158	250	284
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	9	4	3	7	12	-	3
Acute Pneumonia (primary and influ'zal)	-	-	-	3	4	2	2	6	4	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	4	1	17	5	10	-	5	1	29
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2
Malaria	Contracted in England and Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	2	4	3	-	-	3	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	254	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	526	135	263	250	272	529	160	188	264	355

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

DURING THE YEAR 1970 FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS

PARISHES	Scarlet Fever	Acute Pneumonia	Dysentry	Measles	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Tuberculosis		Acute Meningitis	Acute Encephalitis Post Infectious	Food Poisoning	Infective Hepatitis	TOTAL
	-	-	-	42	-	-	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	
Anderton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Anglezarke	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bretherton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brindle	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Charnock Richard	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	64	72
Clayton-le-Woods	-	-	-	45	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	53
Coppull	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138	174
Croston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cuerden	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Eccleston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Euxton	1	-	-	68	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	9	81
Heapey	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Heath Charnock	-	-	-	23	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	26
Heskin	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hoghton	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Mawdesley	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rivington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulnes Walton	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Wheelton	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Whittle-le-Woods	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	29	37
TOTAL	4	-	-	262	-	-	4	-	-	-	6	254	530

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

No Mass Radiography Surveys were carried out in the District in 1970.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During 1970

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
			4					

There were no cases notified after Death.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Most of the water supplied to properties in the Rural District is water obtained from Manchester Corporation and distributed through the Councils' mains. There are however, small parts of various parishes and the whole of the Parish of Rivington supplied by other undertakers, the undertakers and the areas they serve are as follows:

Horwich U.D.C.	... . . . . . . . . . .	Parish of Rivington
Fylde Water Board	... . . . . . . . . . .	Moulden Brow in the parish of Hoghton.
Makerfield Water Board	... . . . . . . . . . .	Anderton Mill, Ridley Lane and Bradshaw Lane in the parish of Mawdesley.
Preston Water Board	... . . . . . . . . . .	St. David's Road area in the parish of Clayton-le-Woods.
Liverpool Corporation	... . . . . . . . . . .	Few properties in Bolton Road in the parish of Heath Charnock and part of Heapey Works in the parish of Heapey.
Withnell U.D.C.	... . . . . . . . . . .	Part of Higher Wheelton in the parish of Wheelton.

During the year arrangements were finalised for the undertakings supplying the Rural District together with the Municipal Borough of Chorley and the Urban District of Adlington to be absorbed by the Preston Water Board from 1st April, 1971.

Plumbo solvency is below the prescribed limit in all water supplied in the District.

The following table shows the number of samples submitted for examination during the year together with the results:-

Public Supply	No.	Bacteriological Examination		No.	Chemical Analysis Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) treated water	152	136	16	12	12	-
(b) raw water	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Private Supply</u>						
(a) treated water	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) raw water	20	17	3	-	-	-

Flouridation of the water supply is not carried out.

Private Supply, Wheelton (Brinscall Hall Area)

A private water supply intended for a reconstructed house in the Brinscall Hall Area of Wheelton, was approved after the collection of numerous samples for bacteriological examination and after I had visited and inspected the source.

Chlorination of Water

Chlorination of the whole of the water supplied by the Council through its mains continued throughout the year.

SEWERAGE

Parishes of Mawdesley, Heskin and Bretherton

The scheme to which I referred in my last annual report as having been approved was actually commenced early in 1970.

The scheme is an excellent one in which some comparatively isolated properties are to be sewered.

When in operation the scheme will cut down pollution of water courses by the effluents of small scale septic tanks, and what is also important will allow well over 100 closet pails to be converted to the water carriage system.

Further progress was made with the scheme for seweraging another part of the parish of Hoghton. This will ultimately serve the Riley Green and Moulden Brow areas, and it is hoped that the scheme will not be delayed as the properties in Moulden Brow are drained to a 'tank' which is virtually inaccessible having been buried under twenty feet of tipped material, conversion of a dozen pail closets will be made possible by this scheme.

Closet Conversions

Compulsory conversion of pail closets was commenced in 1962, but was later discontinued as the conversion of outside closets conflicted with Improvement Grant requirements. There are, however, very few pail closets on the line of the sewers which exist today.

The following table shows the parishes which conversions were carried out in 1970:-

Parishes	Pails to W.C's.	Privies to W.C's.	Privies to Pails	Total
Croston	2	-	-	2
Euxton	1	-	-	1
Heath Charnock	3	-	-	3
Mawdesley	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	7	-	-	7

The following table shows the total conversions carried out since 1941:-

Year	Pails to W.C's.	Privies to W.C's.	Privies to Pails	Total
1941 - 1956	839	380	105	1,324
1957	197	46	-	243
1958	84	9	-	93
1959	58	3	-	61
1960	41	1	-	42
1961	24	33	-	57
1962	34	4	-	38
1963	44	6	-	50
1964	20	-	-	20
1965	15	-	-	15
1966	19	-	-	19
1967	14	2	-	16
1968	16	-	-	16
1969	6	-	-	6
1970	7	-	-	7
TOTAL	1,418	484	105	2,007

CLEANSING

Cleansing by the Rural District Council is limited to the collection and disposal of house refuse and the collection and disposal of nightsoil from properties outside the sewered areas, and which have pail closets.

Pail closet contents are collected in a cesspool emptier vehicle adapted for this purpose, the operation is completely separate from the collection of household refuse.

For refuse collection purposes the area is split into seven parts each of which has a gang and vehicle. The areas vary considerably and size of the gangs vary accordingly.

The vehicles in use are three modern continuous loader type, three fore and aft tippers fitted with pressure plates, and one side loader. An old fore and aft tipper was available as a spare for most of the year. Two new vehicles are on order, one will replace the old side loader and the second will take the place of one of the continuous loaders, actually the first of this type to be acquired five years ago, leaving us with a modern machine as a spare.

All staff engaged on refuse collection and disposal are on a bonus scheme. This has produced a vastly improved service.

Disposal

After collection, pail closet contents are disposed of by tipping into sewers. Emptying into sewers is not, however, without its problems, particularly during the summer when there is no rain, and no resultant flushing for long periods. Further, manholes well sited for disposal are more and more difficult to find, the constant reduction in the number of pails by conversion is the best means of overcoming these difficulties.

Unfortunately the work of closet conversion is limited as most of the properties on the line of main sewers have already been converted and until the sewers referred to under the heading of Sewerage are completed only an odd conversion is possible.

Frivvy midden contents are disposed of on refuse tips, the amount involved being very small indeed.

Centralised tipping has not yet been accomplished although with the use of larger vehicles it is now possible to manage with two tips, one at Brindle used only for refuse collected by the side loader, and the tip at Coppull which takes nine tenths of the refuse collected. The tip at Heskin has been completed and the land, half an acre, has been made suitable for agriculture.

A Weatherill four wheel drive shovel is used on the tips.

Negotiations still proceeded with regard to the acquisition of a site at Ulnes Walton for joint use by Leyland Urban District Council and Chorley Rural District Council.

Salvaging waste material has now been discontinued.

Dustbins

There is no municipal bin scheme in operation in the District, and whilst the owners/occupiers provide their own bins, and the majority of tenants and owners provide bins by arrangement, it is necessary to use Section 75 of the Public Health Act to get bins provided in other cases.

One Notice was served during the year.

Disposal of Atomic Waste

During the year the disposal by the U.K.A.E.A., of Atomic Waste continued in the disused claypit at Ulnes Walton. Actually the site being negotiated by the Rural District Council adjoins this site.

Slaughterhouses

There are three slaughterhouses in the District:-

Ridgewood Bacon Factory, Heath Charnock	-	Messrs. Thornley & Sons
59 Town Road, Croston	-	Messrs. G. Dalton & Partners
Coopers Allotments, Withington Lane, Heskin	-	Messrs. H. & J. Green.

During the year all animals slaughtered were inspected.

The number of visits made to the slaughterhouses were	543
The number of visits made to the Bacon Factory were	<u>185</u>
	TOTAL
	728
	=====

Carcases Inspected and Condemned	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	321	-	-	2,174	14,039	-
Number Inspected	321	-	-	2,174	14,039	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	41	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	53	-	-	313	2,315	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.5	-	-	14.4	16.2	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	93	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.62	-
<u>Cysticercosis:-</u>						
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Poultry Inspection

Number of poultry processing premises with the District at the end of 1970 - 8
Number of visits made to these premises during the year - 279
Number of birds processed during the year - approximately 350,000
Types of birds processed - Turkeys, Ducks, Hens, Broilers and Capons.
Number of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption - Not Known.
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption - Not Known.

Comments of poultry inspection and processing:-

Inspection of numerous premises which are in use almost daily makes inspection of any appreciable number of poultry impossible. Up to the present our work has been confined virtually to hygiene in the premises and education.

Foodstuffs Condemned in 1970

Other inspection of food took place, particularly at a whole-sale depot, and these resulted in the following being condemned:-

Corned Beef	56 lbs.	Tinned Vegetables (Assorted)	1,031 lbs.
Tinned Ham	412 lbs.	Tinned Steak	59 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	3,781 lbs	Tinned Tongue	71 lbs.
Tinned Milk	61 pints	Tinned Luncheon Meat	85 lbs.
Tinned Cream	3 pints	Bacon	12 cwts.
Tinned Tomatoes	594 lbs.	Pickles	51 fl. oz.
Tinned Fish	12 lbs.	Sauces	72 fl. oz.
Tinned Soup	783 lbs.	Preserves	53 lbs.

B R U C E L L O S I S

Raw Milk infected with brucella organisms can give rise to undulant fever in man. Efficient pasteurisation of infected milk renders it safe. Whilst this disease is not notifiable two cases were brought to our attention during the year.

Whilst the introduction by the Ministry of the free vaccination of calves some years ago was undoubtedly a move in the right direction, it was considered by many that more drastic measures would be required if the disease was to be eradicated within a reasonable time.

In 1966 the Ministry introduced a scheme to eradicate brucellosis over a period of years.

This will not only serve the interest of human and animal health, but will also improve agricultural productivity and enable us to maintain and increase exports of livestock.

The first essential is to build up a register of brucella-free herds on a voluntary basis to provide a reservoir of disease-free replacements. Some progress is being made in this direction, whilst I do not know the position for the Country as a whole, information relating to this District is sent by the Lancashire County Council.

At the beginning of 1970 there were twelve accredited herds in the District.

At the end of 1970 there were eighteen accredited herds in the District.

The second stage, which can only be introduced when the voluntary response is large enough will consist of a plan of eradication, area by area, in which all animals reacting to diagnostic tests will be slaughtered, with payment of compensation.

Samples of milk submitted for routine examination in this area are also examined for brucella abortus.

Brucellosis continued

In addition to this, bulk sampling of all raw milk retailed in the District is carried out. Samples from each source being collected and submitted for examination on alternate months. Three hundred and forty eight such samples were collected during the year.

When Brucella is found in a herd for the first time, the farmer, subject to his agreement, is assisted in isolating the affected animals, which must be removed from the herd immediately. Further, individual samples from newly calved or newly purchased animals are examined for him in future to assist him in keeping a brucella free herd. Three such cases were investigated in 1970, involving ninety specimens, of which three were positive. Notices under Regulation 20 are not served in these cases and they are not included in the figures below.

However, should a bulk sample show a herd to be affected a second time, the onus of isolating the infected animal is on the farmer and Notices under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, are served.

The following figures summarise the work carried out:-

Total bulk specimens of raw retailed milk collected and examined	...	348
Number of such bulk specimens found positive for brucella	...	5
Number of Notices under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, served	...	3
Number of Notices carried over from 1969	...	5
Number of Notices withdrawn	...	5
Number of Notices still operative at the end of 1970	...	3
Number of specimens from individual animals examined to help farmers keep brucella free herds	...	562
Number of such individual specimens found to be positive. One of the three notices served was a result of a sample submitted by Lancashire County Council.	...	59

Regulation 20 states:-

"no milk from the above mentioned premises is:-

- (a) to be sold for human consumption or used in the manufacture of products for human consumption.
- (b) to be sold for human consumption within the District of the above mentioned Local Authority.

unless it has been treated, or is sold subject to its being treated before consumption in such a way as to secure that it may, with safety, be sold (or used) as aforesaid".

ICE CREAM

There were no new registrations for the manufacture of ice cream during the year. Manufacturers with one exception are in a small way only making what they themselves retail. In some cases the business is not continuous even in the summer.

Not all premises registered for manufacture are used for that purpose, some only retail ice cream purchased from larger manufacturers.

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year was:-

Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale	...	11
Registered for Storage and Sale only	...	126

The following figures show the number registered since 1949:-

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
35	47	58	61	68	69	72	75	75	80	92
<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
108	113	115	118	121	122	124	129	132	134	137

The Number of Food Premises of the Various Types

in the District at the end of the year was:

Type of Business

General grocers and provision dealers	97
Greengrocers and fruiters (incl. those selling wet fish and game etc.)	3
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry and game etc.)	-
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	11
Bakers and/or confectioners	22
Fried Fish Shops	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals and ice cream ..	24
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	108
Chemists	6
	280
	==

The Number of Food Premises Registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Lancashire County Council Act was:

Premises	Legislation under which registration effected	No. registered at 31.12.70	No. of inspections of registered premises during the year
Manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream	Food and Drugs Act	102	163
Preserved Fish	Food and Drugs Act	12	19
Preserved Meat	Food and Drugs Act	7	27
Hawkers	County Act	27	59

DISPOSAL OF WASTE FOOD

Carcasse Meat

Any carcasse meat found unfit for food is stained, and in this District it is collected by the trade for processing.

Other food, tinned etc., is normally disposed of on refuse tips.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Routine inspection of food handling premises is carried out and as a result further improvements were made at numerous premises involving provision of hot water, suitable working surfaces, wall surfaces, new ceilings, decoration, kitchen alterations storage space and first aid materials.

Catering on a scale never envisaged before in this District commenced in July, 1963, when the Motorway M.6 was opened and the Service Area at Charnock Richard came into operation. The trade during the summer months is extremely heavy, however, it falls off considerably during the winter periods.

Provision has been made for a Service Area on the M.61 in the parish of Anderton, infact it was under construction in 1970, but did not come into use.

In addition there is a very large catering establishment in Rivington used mainly for social purposes.

Number of Premises

	No.	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	To which Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
General Grocers	97	97	97	87
Greengrocers	3	3	3	3
Butchers	11	11	11	11
Bakers and Confectioners	22	22	22	22
Fried Fish Shops	9	9	9	9
Shops selling mainly sweets and minerals	24	24	-	18
Licensed Premises, Clubs Canteens and Cafes	108	96	108	108
Chemists	6	6	6	6
TOTAL	280	268	256	264

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the District.

There are no known users of this product in the District.

S C H O O L S

There are now thirty nine schools in the District, including the Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School, administered by the Education Authority.

The school at Lower Wheelton is in use again for special educational purposes.

The School Medical Services are operated by the County Council and separate reports are issued.

Water Supply

All schools are supplied with water from the Council's mains.

Sanitary Accommodation

Thirty eight of the thirty nine schools have water closets, some are drained to the main sewer and some to private drainage tanks. The odd one has pail closets, and these cannot be converted until the sewerage scheme for the Mawdesley and Heskin area is completed.

H O U S I N G

19 additional properties were added to the Clearance List during the year.

HOUSING SUMMARY

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

- (1) a. Total No. of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 130
- b. No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose .. 415
- (2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:-
- a. Number reported to Ministry in 1955 approx. .. 420
Since then more have been added to the Clearance list approx. .. 224
- b. Total estimated number existing at the end of the year .. 66
- (3) No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit .. 46

HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED AND PERSONS AND FAMILIES DISPLACED

2. In Clearance Areas

- (1) No. of dwelling houses demolished during the year:- Displaced during the year

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
a. Unfit houses	-	-
b. Other houses	-	-

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas

- (1) Houses demolished or closed during the year:-

a. Housing Act, 1957:-

- i. Demolished as a result of formal procedure (Section 17) 8 29 12
- ii. Closed under Section 16(4) 17(1)
35(1) Housing Act, 1957 2 15 4

b. Housing Act, 1949:-

- i. Closed as a result of closing orders under Section 3(1) and 3(2) - - -

c. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:-

- i. Closed as a result of closing orders under Section 10(1) and 11(2) - - -

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Again a number of applications for improvement grants were made during the year under review. The following table summarizes the position:-

	<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	36	36
(b) Approved by Local Authority	30	30
(c) Submitted by the Local Authority to the Ministry	-	-
(d) Finally approved by the Ministry	-	-
(e) Work Completed	12	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (c) above	-	-

Since the beginning of this scheme 497 applications have been made.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

Standard Grants

Since the beginning of this scheme 640 applications have been made.

NEW HOUSES

During the year 539 new houses were erected in the District.

RENT ACT, 1957

This Act is associated with the Housing Act although strictly it is a matter of concern for landlords and tenants. No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The District is little used by genuine campers and the majority of van users in the area are people who desire to use vans as permanent homes.

The Caravan Sites Control of Development Act, 1960, came into operation in 1961. Briefly the Act accepts caravans but gives Local Authorities power to attach reasonable conditions to licences that are issued under it.

The licensing of caravan sites under the Act is very closely connected with Town Planning Approval of such sites, in fact, if planning approval is given then a licence must also be granted.

The number of licensed sites in the District at the end of the year was thirteen.

Nook Farm, Blackmoor, Mawdesley	One van
Off Dob Brow, Charnock Richard	One van
Millers Farm, Ulnes Walton	One van
Off Grimeford Lane, Anderton	One van
Sharratts Wood, Charnock Richard	One van
Woodcocks Farm, Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	Three vans
Greenbank Farm, Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	Three vans
Cuerdens Farm, Clayton-le-Woods	One van
Lime Acres, Doctors Lane, Eccleston	One van
Corner of Ridley Lane, Moor Road, Croston	One van
Southworths Farm, Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	One hundred and seventeen vans
176 Wood Lane, Heskin	One van
Nook Farm, Bretherton	One van

In addition there are numerous vans which are exempt.

S H O P S

Inspection of shops is carried out on behalf of the Lancashire County Council.

A large proportion of the shops in the District are house/shops operated by the family.

Many discussions on food hygiene have taken place at the time of shops inspection. Inspections carried out in 1970 are numbered 80.

CLEAN AIR

Five smoke observations were taken during the year.

Co-operation with the National Coal Board officials continued regarding the burning spoil banks at Ellerbeck Colliery and Chisnall Hall Colliery.

There are no Smoke Control Areas in the Rural District.

After consideration of a report submitted by the Public Health Department in November 1967 the Council decided to take no action.

The decision may not be so bad as it appears on the surface as new properties and properties subject to Improvement Grants are made to comply with specific conditions, so that the number which will have to be dealt with finally is gradually reducing.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

A lot of work as usual was carried out under the powers of the Public Health Act, and the following figures summarise it:

Number of premises visited	4,031
Nuisances and defects discovered	409

Nuisances abated and defects remedied	385
Number of informal notices served	271
Number of Statutory notices served	16
Number of visits, inspections and re-inspections made during the year, total for ALL purposes .. .. .. ..	.. 15,101

RODENT CONTROL

The type of report on Rodent Control Operations required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was simplified in 1967.

A copy of this actual report is given below:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

Prevention of damage by Pests Act, 1949

Year ended 31st December, 1970

Local Authority:-	Chorley Rural District Council		
County:-	Lancashire		
		<u>Type of Property</u>	
		Non-Agriculture	Agriculture
<u>Properties other than sewers</u>			
Numbers of properties in district		12,434	663
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification		726	106
Number infested by:-	Rats	109	106
	Mice	60	20
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		1,437	-
Number infested by:-	Rats	-	-
	Mice	-	-
<u>Sewers</u>			
Were any sewers infested by Rats during the year		No	

The Council operates a contract scheme for agricultural premises. There were one hundred and six contracts in operation at the end of the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

The following tables summarises the work done in connection with factories during the year:-

PART I OF THE ACT

	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	65	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	67	71	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outwork premises)	11	65	-	-
TOTAL	89	201	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			to H.M. Inspec.	by H.M. Inspec.		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Convience:						
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	2	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out work)	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	6	4	-	-	-	

Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(i) (c)

Basket making	-	31
Christman Stockings	-	5

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	21	20
Retail Shops	3	43	43
Wholesale shops and warehouses	-	5	4
Catering establishments open to public - canteens	1	29	29
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	98	96

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises:- 271

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	315
Retail Shops	108
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	37
Catering establishments open to the public	450
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	910
Total MALES	391
Total FEMALES	519

Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act:- Four

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act:- None

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

Seventy licences to store petroleum spirit were issued during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 AND 1951

Section 47 No cases were dealt with in 1970

Section 50 No cases were dealt with in 1970

CARE OF THE AGED

Special Housing Accommodation

The special accommodation, building of which started in 1969 was completed in 1970, and an additional 20 units, separate bungalows, with Wardens services came into use in 1970. The Official Opening was performed by Mrs. C. M. Monks, O.B.E., J.P., M.P. On 23rd November, 1970.

This brings the total to 140 units of this type of accommodation in the Rural District. The seven groups are situated in the following parishes:

<u>Coppull</u> (two groups)	48 units, present wardens appointed in (The Willows) 1966 (The Heys) 1968.
<u>Croston</u>	22 units, present warden appointed in November, 1970.
<u>Eccleston</u>	18 units, present warden appointed in December, 1970.
<u>Euxton</u>	20 units, present warden appointed in August, 1970.
<u>Heath Charnock</u>	16 units, present warden appointed in 1967.
<u>Whittle-le-Woods</u>	16 units, present warden appointed in 1968.
	140
	==

I think it is true to say that the Wardens generally do much more than one could describe as Wardens duty.

The demand for this type of accommodation seems to be greater than ever and if additional accommodation could be provided in other parishes the demand would increase, as there is reluctance on the part of many old people to leave the village of which they have been part, in some cases, for a life time.

The Council had a fairly comprehensive report on this subject submitted by the Public Health Department as long ago as January, 1965 when recommendations, which were approved in principle, covering every parish in the District were made.

At that time there were only 52 units completed, 22 were in course of erection, 32 were planned and 20 agreed to in principle, these have now been completed together with an additional 16 which makes a total of 140. In addition to these the report recommended a further 12 units at Clayton-le-Woods with warden, and 4 units at Hoghton and eight at Wheelton or Hespey, both groups of which were at the time intended to be without a resident Warden, but given some supervision possibly by a nearby Warden with a car or by an occasional visit of a member of the Divisional Medical Officer's Staff.

Perhaps the time is ripe for bringing that report up to date and considering whether other 'Wardenless' accommodation should be provided at say, in parishes such as Bretherton, Brindle, Charnock Richard, Heskin and Mawdesley.

In general, the Council has some difficulty obtaining a satisfactory cost yardstick for Aged Persons Bungalows, and it is only by careful cost planning and very competitive tendering that the Council is able to provide this type of accommodation.

Disabled Person's Bungalows

The Council proposed to provide five disabled persons bungalows - two in the Parish of Coppull and three in the Parish of Euxton. The bungalows are designed so that satisfactory space and amenity requirements are provided in case either of the adult occupants has the disability.

Until recently the Council were unable to obtain a satisfactory cost yardstick, but the Department of the Environment have increased their cost yardstick figures and it is now hoped that with minor modifications to the bungalow designs and by utilizing the 10% tolerance, the construction costs will fall within the permitted cost yardstick.

The Lancashire County Council make grants in connection with provision of this type of accommodation, unfortunately the amount in our case is insufficient to finance the extra space and facilities required for disabled persons.

It would appear that the grants offered by the Lancashire County Council are lower than those made by some other Welfare Authorities.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The Rural District Council devotes two days in the year to the inspection of the District, being accompanied on each occasion by a representative of the Highway Authority and members of its own staff. On such inspections visits are made to sites which are matters of interest in connection with the work of the Local Authority.

CHANGE OF STAFF

My deputy N.T.W. Power L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., left at the end of June to take up an appointment in South Africa. L. M. Mayer Jones M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., was appointed to succeed N.T.W. Power and took up his duties on 1st October, 1970.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health

